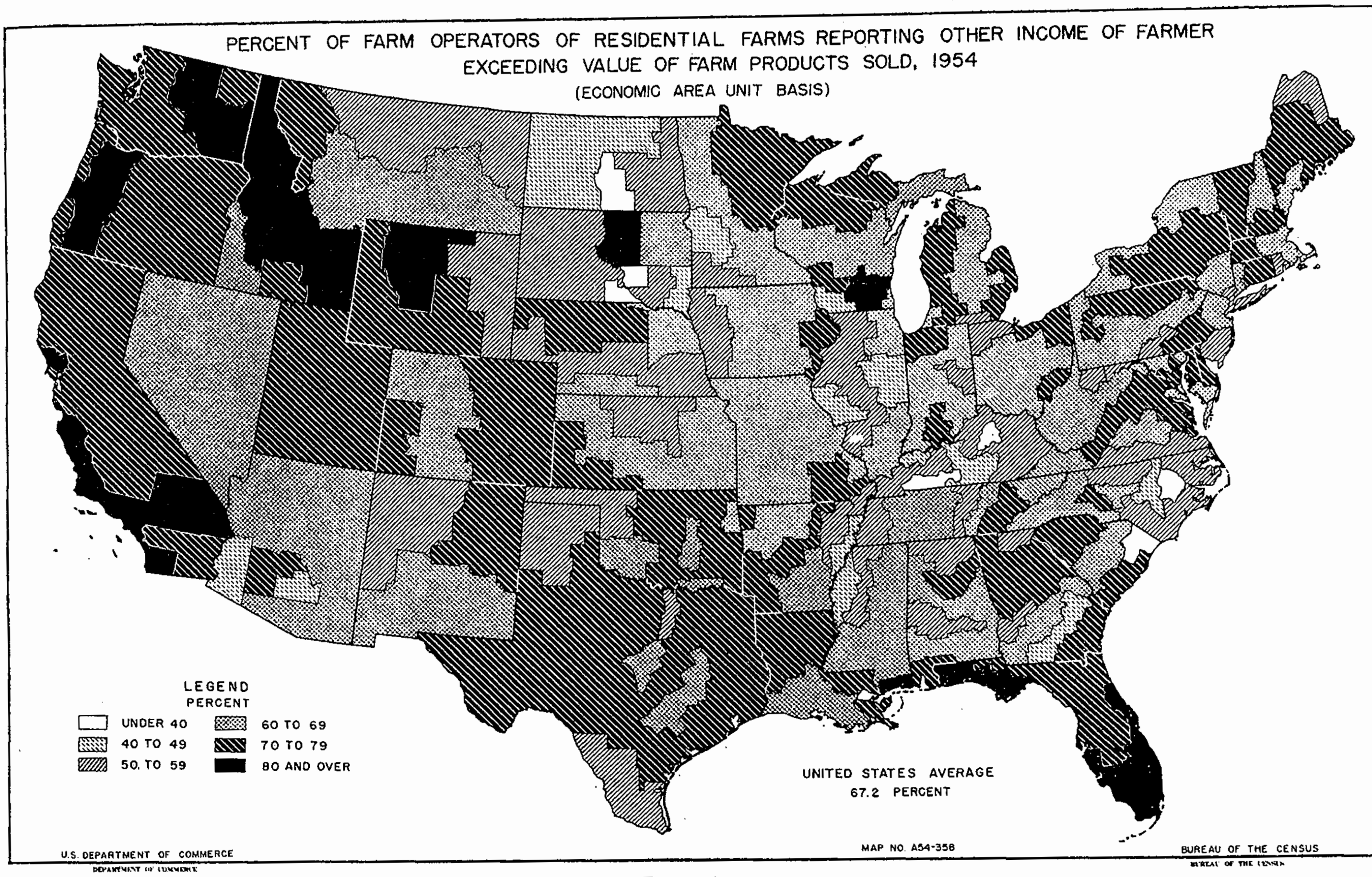

Figure 7.

Maps 6 and 7, of part-time and residential farms, Classes VII and VIII, show that the Class VII, or part-time farms, usually do have more income from off-farm sources than from farming; the pattern for residential farms is much more scattered. A careful study of map 7 reveals, however, that the residential farms in the metropolitan counties are generally receiving more income from nonfarm sources than from farm sales, whereas the nonmetropolitan counties have larger percentages that fail to get a larger income from nonfarm sources than from farm sales. Generally, in metropolitan counties more than 60 percent of the residential farm operators report other income exceeding the value of farm products sold in 1954.

Percentage of farm operators working off their farms in 1954.—Maps 8 and 9 illustrate that the percentage of farm operators working off their farms and the amount of off-farm work are relatively low in the Great Plains and in the West North Central Division, and in most areas where a high percentage of land is under cultivation, as in the nonmetropolitan counties along the Mississippi River and in the coastal plains of the Southeast. On the other hand, relatively high percentages work off farm in the more industrialized or urbanized counties, and in the cutover areas of the Great Lakes, the Appalachian Highlands, and the Rocky Mountains. These maps show that off-farm work is closely related to industrial and other opportunities.

Percentage of farm operators working off their farms, by economic class, 1954.—The pattern over the United States shows that the highest percentages working off farm 100 days or more in each class is found under somewhat predictable circumstances. The conducive conditions are found most commonly in areas of metropolitan or urban-industrial development; in sharecropper farming areas as among Classes I, II, and III in the South; in cutover areas as in some of the Lake States in the case of Class V farms; and in areas where other resources are available, as oil developments in Texas and Oklahoma. In each area where a high percentage of farm operators work off the farm, this fact is associated with some specific type of urban or industrial resource or other source of employment that is readily available (figs. 10 to 16). The percentage of farm operators working off farm 100 days or more increases consistently from Class I through Class V.

Perhaps one of the most striking characteristics by economic classes is that off-farm employment of farm operators in Classes I to III is spread rather generally over the United States, with some concentration in the South. Among Class IV farms a new concentration is developing in the Northeast and the Pacific Region, indicating that many of these low-income farm operators have substantial off-farm sources of income. Among Class V farms this concentration in the Northeast and the West becomes more pronounced.

In the case of part-time or Class VII farms, again the Great Plains and the South are the two regions with the lowest percentages working off farm 100 days or more. This indicates a relatively poorer economic status for Class VII farms in these regions. This tendency is further emphasized in the case of residential or Class VIII farms.